



***Parazoanthus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891, and Parazoanthidae Delage & Hérouard, 1901: Conservation of usage by Reversal of Precedence with *Bergia* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860, and Bergiidae Verrill, 1869 (Cnidaria: Anthozoa: Hexacorallia)**

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Abstract

The names *Bergia* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860, and Bergiidae Verrill, 1869, are respectively, senior subjective synonyms of *Parazoanthus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891, and Parazoanthidae Delage & Hérouard, 1901. The junior synonyms *Parazoanthus* and Parazoanthidae are in current and widespread use. In the interest of nomenclatural stability, we enact Articles 23.9.1 and 23.9.2 to reverse precedence of these names, thereby making *Parazoanthus* and Parazoanthidae *nomina protecta*, and *Bergia* and Bergiidae *nomina oblita*.

Key words: Zoantharia, Zoanthidea, Article 23.9.1, Article 23.9.2, ICZN, nomenclature

The family Parazoanthidae Delage & Hérouard, 1901, and its type genus *Parazoanthus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891, are a group of zoanths frequently epizoic on sponges or other benthic organisms (see Reimer & Sinniger 2010: 253). The genus *Parazoanthus* was established by Haddon & Shackleton (1891a: 633) with the type species *Palythoa axinellae* Schmidt, 1862, by original designation.

In addition to the type species, at least nine other species are currently included in the genus (Appeltans *et al.* 2011): *Parazoanthus anguicomus* (Norman, 1869), *Parazoanthus capensis* Carlgren, 1938, *Parazoanthus catenularis* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860), *Parazoanthus darwini* Reimer & Fujii, 2010, *Parazoanthus dichroicus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891b, *Parazoanthus elongatus* McMurrich, 1904, *Parazoanthus parasiticus* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860), *Parazoanthus puertoricense* West, 1979, and *Parazoanthus swiftii* (Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860) (Sinniger *et al.* 2010; Swain 2009). The family Parazoanthidae was established by Delage & Hérouard (1901: 665), with only the type genus included. Parazoanthidae now contains five genera (see Sinniger *et al.* 2010: 58). The family Parazoanthidae and the genus *Parazoanthus* are still undergoing revision (discussed in Sinniger *et al.* 2010), and the exact number of species in *Parazoanthus* is still a matter of debate.

The genus *Bergia* was established by Duchassaing & Michelotti (1860: 54) for two new species, *Bergia catenularis* and *Bergia vialactea*. The family Bergiidae was established by Verrill (1869: 494), with the inclusion of only the type genus. Duerden (1903: 496) considered the two species of *Bergia* to be conspecific, using *Bergia catenularis* in favour of *Bergia vialactea*, and transferred *Bergia catenularis* to the genus *Parazoanthus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891. The names *Bergia* Duchassaing & Michelotti, 1860, and Bergiidae Verrill, 1869, are thus respectively, senior subjective synonyms of *Parazoanthus* Haddon & Shackleton, 1891, and Parazoanthidae Delage & Hérouard, 1901.